RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 20th December, 1995/ Agrahayana 29th 1917 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman *in the Chair.*

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Sir, what about constitution of a House Committee? *(Interrup-*[1] Sir, what happened to the notices 'ddy and Dr. Biplab r Rule 168? *(Interruptions)* Sir, they are pending since November.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Sir, the very second question in the List of Questions for Oral Answers is regarding the nuclear tests. It is a very important question. *(Interruptions)* It should be discussed before any other issue is taken up. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, the issue of supply of Cauveri water is under your consideration for discussion. It is a very important issue. *(Interruptions)*

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, what about a House Committee?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is better we discuss it further with the Government. So, I will adjourn the House for a little while. *(Interruptions)* should I adjourn it till 2' o clock *(Interruptions)* Or adjourn it till 4' o clock?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: For the whole day.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, I yield to the Opposition and adjourn the House till eleven o'clock tomorrow.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Acute shortage of post cards

*341. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of Post Cards on Post Office sale-counters especially in rural areas;

(b) whether this is largely attributable to the heavy demand for Post Cards from TV viewers and others responding to various Quiz-programmes on Door-darshan and AIR;

(c) if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of introducing a spcical type of Post Cards, realistically prices, so as to avoid losses on Post-Cards, for responding to such Quiz-programmes; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Shortage of Post Cards in a few pockets of the rural areas has come to notice from time to time.

(b) While there is large scale use of Post Cards by TV viewers and others responding to various quiz programmes on Doordarshan. AIR, etc; the shortage of Post Cards in some pockets of rural areas is due to occasional delay in distribution to such areas and occasional delay in supply of Post Cards by the security presses.

(c) and (d) The introduction of special type of Post Cards for quiz programmes and other completions can be done by amendment to Indian Post Office Act, 1898. Preliminary work in this direction has already been initiated.

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

*342. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention